


Dated: _____

(PATENT)



RECEIVED

OCT 31 2003

Confirmation No.: 5060

Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: F. Krass

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

This petition is being filed in order to ensure copendency with application being filed concurrently herewith.

In the event that a further petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted at this time, applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to ensure that the above-identified application does not become abandoned.

01_FC:1253

950.00 OP

Our check in the amount of \$950.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3) is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to \$1000.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: October 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Jonathan P. Mitchell, Ph.D.

Registration No.: 50,239

DARBY & DARBY P.C.

P.O. Box 5257

New York, New York 10150-5257

(212) 527-7700

(212) 753-6237 (Fax)

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant